

Applic. No. 10/701,836
Amdt. dated December 29, 2006
Reply to Office action of October 10, 2006

Remarks/Arguments:

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 19-22 and 27-46 remain in the application. Claims 19, 20, 22, 40, 41, and 44 have been amended. Claims 21, 43, 45, and 46 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-18 were previously cancelled. Claims 23-26 are being cancelled herewith.

In the last paragraph on page 2 of the above-identified Office action, claims 19, 20, 22-29, 34-42, and 44 have been rejected as being fully anticipated by Shiley (U.S. Patent No. 5,066,237) under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

As will be explained below, it is believed that the claims were patentable over the cited art in their original form and as a whole, the claims have, therefore, not been amended to overcome the references. However, claim 19 and 40 have been amended to include the subject matter of claims 23-25.

Before discussing the prior art in detail, it is believed that a brief review of the invention as claimed, would be helpful.

Applic. No. 10/701,836

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Claims 19, 40, 41, and 44 call for, *inter alia*:

a plurality of relatively long retaining teeth overlapping the hole edge of the locating hole at the top side, the long retaining teeth being bent at least slightly outward.

Claims 19, 40, 41, and 44 also call for, *inter alia*:

the short retaining teeth being bent at least slightly outward and each having a respective free end, and the circumferential diameter at the free ends being greater than the hole diameter of the locating hole.

The Shiley reference discloses an eyelet (50) having a cap (56) at the top of a tubular portion. Shiley does not disclose outwardly bent long retaining teeth overlapping the hole edge at a topside thereof.

The reference does not show a plurality of relatively long retaining teeth overlapping the hole edge of the locating hole at the top side, the long retaining teeth being bent at least slightly outward, as recited in claim 19, 40, 41, and 44 of the instant application. The Shiley reference discloses an eyelet with a cap that rests on a top surface. Shiley does not disclose outwardly bent long teeth overlapping a hole edge

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at a topside thereof. This is contrary to the invention of the instant application as claimed, in which a plurality of relatively long retaining teeth overlap the hole edge of the locating hole at the top side, the long retaining teeth are bent at least slightly outward.

Shiley discloses that the tubular portion has a center section with tines or fingers (66-68). Fig. 7 of Shiley shows that the fingers (66-68) are created by a u-shaped stamped slit in the center of the tubular portion. Shiley discloses that an outer part (76) of the fingers presses against the walls of the circuit board hole. Shiley does not disclose that the fingers are bent outwardly. Shiley does not disclose that free ends of the fingers have a circumferential diameter that is greater than the diameter of a locating hole.

The reference does not show the short retaining teeth being bent at least slightly outward and each having a respective free end, and the circumferential diameter at the free ends being greater than the hole diameter of the locating hole, as recited in claim 19, 40, 41, and 44 of the instant application. The Shiley reference discloses fingers that have an outer part that presses against the walls of a circuit board hole. Shiley does not disclose that the fingers are bent outwardly. Shiley does not disclose that free ends of

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the fingers have a circumferential diameter that is greater than the diameter of a locating hole. This is contrary to the invention of the instant application as claimed, in which the short retaining teeth are bent at least slightly outward and each having a respective free end, and the circumferential diameter at the free ends is greater than the hole diameter of the locating hole.

In the first paragraph on page 5 of the Office action, claims 30-33 have been rejected as being obvious over Shiley (U.S. Patent No. 5,066,237) in view of Mosquera (U.S. Patent No. 5,509,814) under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Mosquera does not make up for the deficiencies of Shiley. Since claim 19 is believed to be allowable, dependent claims 30-33 are believed to be allowable as well.

It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claims 19, 40, 41, or 44. Claims 19, 40, 41 and 44 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art and since all of the dependent claims are ultimately dependent on claims 19, 41, 44, they are believed to be patentable as well.

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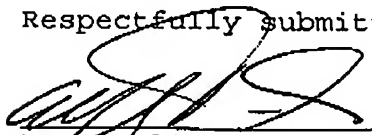
In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of
claims 19-22 and 27-46 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims
to be unpatentable, counsel respectfully requests a telephone
call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked
out.

If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition
for extension is herewith made.

Please charge any other fees which might be due with respect
to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner
Greenberg Stemer LLP, No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



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